

## **AUTOMATED ICE BAGGING APPARATUS AND METHODS**

### **ABSTRACT**

5       An automatic ice vending apparatus including a holding vessel capable of  
storing a plurality of ice pieces to provide a constant supply of ice over an indeterminate period  
of time and an ice transferring device designed to transport a portion of the ice pieces in a  
substantially horizontal direction through and out of the holding vessel, and optionally, an  
upwardly directional ice transport device operably positioned to transport the ice pieces  
upwards to a weighing device, whereby the weighing device meters out a portion of ice pieces  
10       and deposits the portion into a readily transportable container. Methods of delivering ice to a  
consumer are also included.

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